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COUNTRY	Central Zone of Germany	25X1	REPORT NO.	
TOPIC Soviet Troops at the OHRDRUF Troop Training Grounds				
25X1 EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED		25X1
DATE OF CONTENT				
DATE OBTAINED		25X1	DATE PREPARED 5 October 1949	
REFERENCES				
PAGES	3	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)		
REMARKS				

11 and 12 August 1949

- 25X1 1. The following observations were made in the OHRDRUF (M 51/J 15) - CRAWINKEL (M 51/J 14) area:
- 25X1 a. Restricted area northeast of the CRAWINKEL railroad station: Hospital unit with two large and six small cantonment-buildings, two large tents and six brick houses. Officers were billeted in the latter houses. 25X1
- 25X1 b. Restricted area west of the hospital area: An antiaircraft gun emplacement was located about 500 feet north of the CRAWINKEL-OHRDRUF and CRAWINKEL-WOLFIS (M 51/J 15) cross roads, about 300 feet east of the latter road. Two 76.2 mm antiaircraft guns pointing east and one 76.2 mm antiaircraft gun pointing north were observed. About 20 troops with two tents were located at the gun emplacement. The trucks 25X1
- 25X1 c. Parking lot north of the mentioned restricted area: Motor vehicles were parked there. The passenger car and the trucks left the parking lot.
- 25X1 d. Hill 436: Only the truck was observed in the heavily guarded area around this hill.
- 25X1 e. CRAWINKEL-OHRDRUF road: motor vehicles were observed on the road:

Early August to early September 1949

2. a. The troop training grounds of OHRDRUF was heavily occupied by tank, artillery, infantry, engineer and motor transport units between early August and early September 1949. 25X1

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[] estimated the number of troops at 30,000 to 40,000. Most of the troops were young, some of them wearing the guards badge. Maneuvers could not be observed since they were conducted in strictly guarded wooded areas.

b. The following observations were made at the troop camp of OMBURUP East located near the railroad line leading to GOTHIA (SI/J 06):

5 August 1949

(1) About 2,000 troops of tank and artillery units which were said to be frequently changed.

Heavy weapons: Four JS III tanks
Eleven T 34/43 tanks
Seven rocket launchers
Four 120-mm mortars
Six 76.2-mm guns
One 150-mm gun.

25X1

15 to 20 August 1949

(2) The troop camp was heavily occupied by about 3,000 troops. A seven-foot board fence had recently been constructed around the camp.

Heavy weapons:

Six Shchuka tanks
Five T 34/43 tanks
Two SU 152 SP guns
Three 152-mm gun howitzers
Nine 76.2-mm field guns
Five 80 or 88-mm antiaircraft guns, emplaced
Two 37-mm antiaircraft guns
Ten rocket launchers, mounted on three-axle trucks
12 to 15 x 120-mm mortars
Several 160-mm mortars
Three searchlights of 3 to 5 feet in diameter.

Troops practiced with guns and mortars. Tanks and 160-mm mortars were engaged in firing practices with live ammunition. Searchlight practices were held during the night. []

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25 August to 1 September 1949

(3) Heavy weapons:

About 80 P 34 tanks, lined between the hospital and the parking lot northwest of the camp

fourteen 76.2-mm field guns

six 122-mm howitzers

Six 150-mm howitzers

Numerous heavy mortars, observed when leaving for a field exercise.

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Comment:

a. The detailed observations made at the ONHURUF troop training grounds between early August and early September 1949 confirmed that component units of the XXVIII SS Ptz Rifle Corps (i.e. 30th SS Ptz Rifle Div, 20th SS Pz Div and Hq units of the 1st SS Army and the mentioned corps) were still engaged in maneuvers in the ONHURUF area at the time of observation.

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c. The statement that the units engaged in maneuvers in the ONHURUF area totaled 30,000 to 40,000 men is considered correct.